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RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE 0002
RUEHSJ/AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE 1269
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO IMMEDIATE 3116
RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE 9457
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE 4974
RUEHSF/AMEMBASSY SOFIA IMMEDIATE 3903
RUEHNC/AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE 5550
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RUEHHE/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE 2285
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE 3624
RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE 1227
RUEHUP/AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST IMMEDIATE 7678
RUEHDL/AMEMBASSY DUBLIN IMMEDIATE 1046
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE 2340
RUEHVL/AMEMBASSY VILNIUS IMMEDIATE 2617
RUEHLE/AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG IMMEDIATE 6011
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE 6372
RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE 4849
RUEHLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE 7880
RUEHBM/AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE 2123
RUEHSL/AMEMBASSY BRATISLAVA IMMEDIATE 0424
RUEHLJ/AMEMBASSY LJUBLJANA IMMEDIATE 6762
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE 2634
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE 8043
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 6756
INFO RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 7805

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 STATE 097566

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/19/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [UNGA](#)

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE REQUEST: UNGA WALKOUT REDLINES

Classified By: IO PDAS Gerald C. Anderson for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

11. (U) This is an action request (see para 4) for delivery at the most senior appropriate level of host government at OOB Monday, September 21.

12. (C) For posts in EU member states, please note that there will be an EU Political Directors meeting in NYC on Monday, September 21 and we hope to have instructions to EU missions relayed in advance of that meeting.

Background

13. (C) The United States has decided that we will break with past practice and start out every UNGA speech with an appropriate-level person behind the U.S. placard during all/all speeches at the UN General Assembly high-level event September 23-October 2. The seniority of the person in the chair will be calibrated appropriately to the speaker. Given the September 18 speech by Iranian President Ahmadinejad in which he again denied the fact of the Holocaust and called for the destruction of the state of Israel, a UN member state, and given the ongoing concerns about the unpredictable nature of Libyan President Qadahafi's recent public remarks, Washington has

decided to establish some clear redlines for walking out during these speeches in the case of extremely offensive remarks. Paragraph 7 contains those redlines.

14. (C) Department requests that posts reach out to appropriately senior-level of host governments OOB on Monday, September 21 to convey the talking points in para 6 and our redlines in para 7 and request that host governments agree to join us in a walkout and to so instruct their missions in New York and their delegations for UNGA.

15. (C) We understand that the French, UK and Canadian PermReps in New York have recommended to capitals that their governments join us in a walkout and anticipate sending a lower level (first secretary or below) to these speeches. The EU does not yet have a common position. We understand that the PermRep of EU President Sweden opposes a walkout under any circumstances and is attempting to organize a meeting of EU Political Directors on Monday, September 21 in New York to attempt to achieve an EU consensus position. He acknowledged there is not consensus yet.

Talking Points

STATE 00097566 002 OF 003

16. (U) Beginning Talking Points:

-- The United States has decided that we will break with past practice and start out every UNGA speech with an appropriate-level person behind the U.S. placard during all/all speeches at the UN General Assembly high-level event starting on September 23 and running through October 12. The seniority of the person in the chair will be calibrated appropriately to the speaker. This in keeping with our increased engagement in multilateral institutions.

-- However, given the September 18 speech by Iranian President Ahmadinejad in which he again denied the fact of the Holocaust and called for the destruction of the state of Israel, a UN member state, and given the ongoing concerns about the unpredictable nature of Libyan President Qadahafi's recent public remarks, Washington has decided to establish some clear redlines for walking out during these speeches in the case of extremely offensive remarks, the types of remarks that transcend legitimate political discourse and grossly exceed the minimum proprieties of the UNGA.

-- We request that your government join us in such a walk-out of either the Iranian or the Libyan speeches if these redlines are crossed.

For EU member states only:

-- We understand that your Political Directors will meet in New York on Monday morning September 21 local time to discuss this issue. We hope that the EU will agree to these redlines. If your country cannot agree, we hope that you will not block consensus for other members of the EU joining in walking out.

U.S. Redlines

17. (U) Our redlines for walking out of a speech, which should be conveyed to the host government, are:

- Denying the historical reality of the Holocaust
- Comparing U.S. or Israeli actions to those of Nazi Germany
- Using other clearly anti-Semitic rhetoric, including suggestions (similar to those in Ahmadinejad's 2008 UNGA

remarks) that Jews or Zionists control the media and the financial system or have formed a nefarious conspiracy
-- Threatening the destruction of Israel or any other UN member state
-- Denying Israel's or another UN member state's right to exist
-- Suggesting that the United States deserved 9/11
-- Embracing or justifying the Lockerbie bombing
-- If asked: The U.S. will, of course, reserve the right to respond to any other obnoxious or offensive statements.

STATE 00097566 003 OF 003

Reporting Deadline

18. (U) Department requests responses from posts to this cable be sent to Washington and USUN New York and be slugged for Christopher Deutsch in IO/UNP and to Jennifer Simon at USUN no later than OOB Tuesday, September 22.
CLINTON